

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CABINET KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

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Financial Aid Tip of the Month, November 2005

Pay attention to deadlines for scholarships, admissions

Now is the time college-bound seniors need to start paying close attention to application deadlines for college admissions and financial aid. Here are some tips from the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) and The Student Loan Peoplesm:

- If you haven't yet picked a college, narrow your list by visiting schools and talking with students and your parents. You can also compare schools and take virtual campus tours at www.GoHigherKY.org.
- If you plan to go through the Early Decision process, which means you commit to going to a particular school in the fall, most schools request the applications be submitted about this time of year.
- If you're going through the regular admissions process, now is the time to talk with teachers about writing recommendations and to work on your admissions essay if you have to write one. Many private colleges require an essay as part of the admissions process.
- Check with the financial aid offices of the schools to which you're applying to determine if they require any financial aid forms other than the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Attend any college fairs and financial aid seminars offered by your high school or in your area. Remember—if a company wants to charge you a fee for helping you with admissions and financial aid applications, make sure it's a reputable company by checking with the State Attorney General's office or Better Business Bureau in your area and the area where the firm is located.

To learn how to plan and prepare for higher education, visit www.GoHigherKY.org. For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798; or call (800) 928-8926, extension 7381. For more information about low-cost student loans, visit www.studentloanpeople.com; write The Student Loan People, P.O. Box 24328, Louisville, KY 40224-0328; or call (888) 678-4625.

